

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 044070
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 SS-15 SP-02 HA-05 CIAE-00
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DRAFTED BY AF/W:MCEATON:BA
APPROVED BY AF-RMMOOSE
-----099629 190928Z /23
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, UV

SUBJECT: UPPER VOLTAN AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON
ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE, FEBRUARY 14: FOOD SITUATION

1. UPPER VOLTA AMBASSADOR YAGUIBOU MADE HIS FIRST CALL
ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE FEBRUARY 14. DISCUSSION
FOCUSED ON THE FOOD SITUATION IN UPPER VOLTA, RECENT
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS, AND US SUPPORT FOR UPPER VOLTA'S
IMPENDING RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE. LAST TWO ITEMS WILL
BE DEALT WITH IN SEPTEL.

2. AMBASSADOR YAGUIBOU TOLD MOOSE THAT THE FOOD SITUATION
IN UPPER VOLTA HAD BECOME "TROUBLING." YAGUIBOU SAID
THAT THE SITUATION CREATED BY THE BAD HARVEST IN THE NORTH-
WEST OF THE COUNTRY WAS COMPOUNDED BY THE FLOW OF REFUGEES
FROM NEIGHBORING MALI AND NIGER. ACCORDING TO THE
AMBASSADOR, FOOD SHORTAGES WOULD BECOME MOST SEVERE DURING
THE MONTHS OF APRIL AND MAY.

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3. YAGUIBOU SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE A NEED FOR CON-
SIDERABLE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO MEET THE FOOD CRISIS AND
THAT UPPER VOLTA WOULD AGAIN NEED THE SAME QUANTITIES OF
US FOOD AID THAT WERE PROVIDED LAST YEAR. THE GOOD NEWS
WAS THAT THE SITUATION WAS NOT AS SERIOUS OR ALARMING AS

IN 1973, BECAUSE THE INFRASTRUCTURE WAS IN PLACE.
YAGUIBOU NOTED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS BEGINNING TO GEAR
UP FOR THE NEW EMERGENCY BY PLACING RESPONSIBILITY FOR
CEREALS DISTRIBUTION IN THE HANDS OF THE MINISTRIES OF
COMMERCE, FINANCE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

4. MOOSE TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE TO
PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO UPPER VOLTA'S FOOD NEEDS, AND
THAT US AND OTHER NATIONS SHOULD BE ABLE TO MEET ANY
LEGITIMATE NEEDS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE POST
COMMENTS ON THE FOREGOING, PARTICULARLY CLAIM THAT LARGE
NUMBERS OF REFUGEES ARE ARRIVING IN UPPER VOLTA.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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